improve quality and to become internationally competitive so that the country's export performance may improve. However, these efforts are not aimed at generating competition among the various States of the country.

(d) While Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh specialise in mulberry-silk textiles, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh specialise in tasar-silk textiles.

(e) and (f) The total earnings from export of silk textile products during the years 1990-91 to 1993-94 (April 93-Jan. 94) are as under:-

Year	Rs. in crores
1990-91	435.94
1991-92	670.98
1992-93	734.22
1993-94 (Apr. 93-Jan. 94)	546.86

The Government have taken several measures to boost exports including that of silk textiles and other textile products. The important ones among these are introduction of a unified market determined exchange rate system, covertibility of the rupee on current account, facilitating import of capital goods at concessional duty for export production, increased availability of export credit, permission to retain Foreign Exchange receipts to the extent of 25% in foreign currency account, etc.

Besides, the Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council for undertaking various export activities such as participation in Fairs, sponsoring of Sales cum Study Tours and Buyer Seller Meets, Product Development, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, dissemination of overseas trade information among the exporters, etc.

Power Plans at Yamuna Nagar and Faridabad

*618. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Haryana has executed an agreement with an israeli firm for construction of thermal power plant at Yamuna Nagar and gas-based power plant at Faridabad during his recent visit to Israel; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the thermal power plant at Yamuna Nagar and gas-based plant at Faridabad are being constructed by the NTPC and the Haryana State Electricity Board have nothing to do with the construction of these two units; if so, whether NTPC had authorised the Chief Minister to execute an agreement with a firm of Israel to construct/finance these projects;

(c) whether any State of Indian Union can enter into a direct agreement/ negotiation with a firm of foreign country without the mediation of Government of India;

(d) if so, what are the relevant rules; and

(e) if not, what is the justification of the action taken by Chief Minister of Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) and (b) The Faridabad gas based power project is proposed to be executed by the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) assistance. As regards the Yamunanagar Thermal Power Project, the Eisenberg Group of Companies, and the Haryana State Electricity Board have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at Tel Aviv on the 5th April, 1994 in the presence of the Chief Minister of Haryana and with the full knowledge of the Central Government to form a Joint Venture for the implementation of this project.

(c) to (e) The visit of the delegation led by the Chief Minister of Haryana had all the requisito clearances. There is nothing that debars a foreign company desirous of investing in the power sector in India arriving at a MoU for this purpose with a State Electricity Board, which must presuppose approval of the State Government.

Private Patricipation in Power Sector

*619. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised an action plan to encourage private participation in the power generation and distribution, upgradation of efficiency of the existing units and the rationalisation of the power tariff;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether all the suggestions of the private sector have been fully met;

(d) to what extent the private sector has agreed to participate in the power sector;

(e) what are the details of incentives proposed to be given for the projects requiring upto hundred crore rupees worth of investment; and

(f) whether projects with a generating capacity of upto 15 MW are to be treated under non-coventional energy sources, making them eligible for subsidy; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE): (a) Yes, Sir. An action plan was adopted by consensus with the States/Ministry of Power inter-alia in respect of private Sector Participation during the National Power Ministers' Conference held in January, 1993.

(b) Relevant extract of the details of the Action Plan in respect of private sector participation is given in the enclosed Statement-D. (*See* below)

(c) to (e) The Government had evolved a financial package which inter alia contained incentives and guidelines for private power development. The same is given in Statement-II (*See* below). The Government is constantly interacting with prospective entrepreneurs, Chambers of Commerce, trade associations, State Governments and SEBs in this regard.

Around 1340 MW of new capacity is currently under construction in the Private Sector and a new licensee company has started functioning. Further around 75 expressions of interest out of which 35 are from companies based abroad, for putting up a gnerating capacity of 32662 MW valued at Rs.1,04,152 crores and for setting up 2 distribution companies have been received.

(f) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES) has informed that they have recently agreed to enhance the capacity of small hydro power projects being dealt by them to 15 MW installed capacity. At present there are no subsidies for enhanced capactiy.

Statement I

Action Plan adopted in respect of Private Sector Participation during the Power Ministers' Conference held in January, 1993.

State Governments/State Electricity Boards should:

(a) set up a high level nodal agency for monitoring & promoting private power projects.

(b) Prepare shelf of projects based on optimal fuel mix for being offered to private companies.

(c) Formulate and notify terms, where necessary for

(i) Direct supply to large consumers.

(ii) wheeling & Banking arrangements for such direct supply and for absorption of surplus into the grid from captive and co-generation plants.